

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 208571
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 CPR-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
PA-02 /035 R

DRAFTED BY M:PFKENNEDY
APPROVED BY M:PFKENNEDY
S/CPR - INFO
M - GKIRK (INFO)

-----112876 170643Z /15
O 162357Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 208571

FOR USDEL - GINSBERG FROM KENNEDY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: PRESS CLIPPINGS

1. WASHINGTON POST, WEDNESDAY, PAGE A 18
DOMINICAN INAUGURAL: A MORE AUSPICIOUS 2ND VISIT BY VANCE
BY KAREN DE YOUNG
WASHINGTON POST FOREIGN SERVICE
SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - IN 1965, WHEN THIS
CARIBBEAN NATION WAS REELING FROM CIVIL WAR AND U.S.
TROOPS OCCUPIED THE CAPITAL, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
CYRUS VANCE VISITED HERE A PART OF A MEDIATING TEAM WHOSE
GOAL, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, WAS THE INSTALLATION OF ANTONIO
GUZMAN AS INTERIM PRESIDENT. //
TODAY, SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE RETURNS TO THE DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC HEADING THE U.S. DELEGATION TO GUZMAN'S PRESI-
DENTIAL INAUGURATION.//

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 208571

TIMES HAVE CHANGED SINCE THE FIRST VISIT. THE EFFORT TO
INSTALL GUZMAN AS A COMPROMISE CANDIDATE WAS UNSUCCESSFUL,
BUT 12 YEARS OF PEACE FOLLOWED ANYWAY AS JOAQUIN BALAGUER
WAS ELECTED FOR THREE STRAIGHT TERMS WITH U.S. BLESSINGS.//
PERHAPS THE BIGGEST CHANGE OF ALL, HOWEVER, IS THAT TODAY'S
INAUGURATION MARKS THE FIRST PEACEFUL, CONSTITUTIONAL
CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT THAT THE ISLAND REPUBLIC HAS SEEN IN

THIS CENTURY.//

IT IS A VICTORY NOT ONLY FOR GUZMAN'S DOMINICAN REVOLUTIONARY PARTY AND ITS BACKERS BUT ALSO IN SOME MEASURE

FOR THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION, WHOSE SUPPORT OF THE BALAGUER GOVERNMENT THREATENED TO BELIE ITS PROFESSED COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY IN LATIN AMERICA--//
ALTHOUGH THE OPPOSITION HAD REPEATEDLY CHARGED BALAGUER, AND THE DOMINICAN ARMED FORCES, WITH UPHOLDING HIS MANDATE THROUGH FORCE AND CORRUPTION, CARTER HAD CONGRATULATED THE 70-YEAR-OLD PRESIDENT LAST SEPTEMBER FOR TRANSFORMING THE NATION OF 5 MILLION PERSONS INTO A "MODEL" DEMOCRACY.//

THAT IMAGE WAS SHATTERED DURING ELECTIONS THREE MONTHS AGO WHEN THE BALAGUER GOVERNMENT, BADLY TRAILING, STOPPED THE VOTE COUNT WITH GUNS. AN APPARENT COUP ATTEMPT WAS ABORTED FOLLOWING STRONG DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE.//

CARTER AVOIDED POSSIBLE DAMAGE WITH A QUICK SHOW OF SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT GUZMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY A THREAT OF U.S. SANCTIONS SHOULD BALAGUER PERSIST.//
TO REINFORCE THE MESSAGE, CARTER HAS SENT WHAT IS PERHAPS THE HIGHEST-LEVEL DELEGATION OF THE APPROXIMATELY 50 PRESENT FOR THE INAUGURATION. IN ADDITION TO VANCE, THE DELEGATION INCLUDES U.N. AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG AND THE NEWLY INSTALLED ASSISTANT. PRESENCE IS A MESSAGE. UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 208571

RECTED TOWARD A "SPECIAL AUDIENCE" -- THE DOMINICAN MILITARY.//

AS A RESULT OF THE DOMINICAN GENERALS' KNOWN UNHAPPINESS WITH GUZMAN, WHO IS ALLIED WITH INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, AND THEIR PROVEN PENCHANT FOR HEAVY-HANDED CONTROL, THE OFFICIAL SAID, THE MILITARY NEEDED TO BE TOLD THAT THE U.S. ARMED FORCES STOOD BEHIND THE DEMOCRATIC AIMS OF THEIR PRESIDENT.//

WHILE SOME LOCAL BUSINESS AND POLITICAL LEADERS EXPRESSED ANGER AT THE INTERVENTIONIST IMPLICATION OF MC AULIFFE'S PRESENCE, IT DIDN'T SEEM TO BOTHER GUZMAN. THE PRESIDENT-ELECT MET WITH THE U.S. GENERAL FOR NEARLY AN HOUR AT HIS HOME YESTERDAY, AND WILLINGLY POSED FOR PHOTOS FOR THE LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS.//

GUZMAN, 57, IS A CATTLE RANCHER. HE REMAINED IN OPPOSITION AFTER THE 1965 VANCE MISSION QUICKLY DISCARDED THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS PRESIDENCY AS UNWORKABLE. HAVING FINALLY WON THE ELECTORAL BATTLE, HE CLEARLY FEELS HE WILL NEED FRIENDS IN PRESIDENTIAL POWER SKIRMISHES TO COME.//

IN THE SEVERAL WEEKS SINCE BALAGUER'S CONCESSION OF DEFEAT, THE PRESIDENT AND HIS REFORMIST PARTY HAVE, THROUGH

NEW LEGISLATION AND PRESIDENTIAL DECREES, GONE ABOUT

CHANGING THE LAW TO MAKE THINGS DIFFICULT FOR GUZMAN.//
THE CHANGES BEGAN SEVERAL WEEKS AGO WHEN THE BALAGUER-
APPOINTED ELECTORAL COMMISSION ARBITRARILY AWARDED FOUR
SENATE SEATS WON BY GUZMAN'S PARTY TO THAT OF BALAGUER,
GIVING A LEGISLATIVE MAJORITY IN THE UPPER HOUSE.//
THE CURRENT LEGISLATURE, FULLY CONTROLLED BY BALAGUER,
RAISED MILITARY PAY AND FROZE IN PLACE FOR TWO YEARS THE
CURRENT LIST OF COMMANDERS IN A BID FOR ARMED FORCES
LOYALTY TO THE REFORMIST PARTY. THE OLD LEGISLATURE ALSO
REMOVED FROM THE PRESIDENCY THE POWER TO APPOINT JUDGES AND
MEMBERS OF THE DOMINICAN EQUIVALENT OF THE U.S. FEDERAL
RESERVE.//

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 208571

TO ADD INSULT TO INJURY, WHILE GUZMAN PARTY WORKERS HAVE
SPENT THE PAST WEEK PAINTING CURBSIDES AND BUILDINGS TO
WELCOME THE SLEW OF INTERNATIONAL VISITORS, BALAGUER'S
SANITATION WORKERS HAVE STOPPED TRASH COLLECTION AND SANTO
DOMINGO'S STREETS ARE FILLED WITH GARBAGE.//
NEVERTHELESS, THE EUPHORIA AND EXCITEMENT OF THE MOMENT
AND THE PROSPECT OF POSSIBLE SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE SEEM TO
HAVE OVERCOME, AT LEAST, TEMPORARILY, THE ANTICIPATION
OF PROBLEMS.//
NEWLY ELECTED LEGISLATORS EAGERLY ANTICIPATE LEGAL AND
LEGISLATIVE BATTLES WITH THE OUTGOING RULES. LAWYERS SAY
THEY NOW WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO PRESS THEIR CLAIMS THROUGH
LEGAL BRIEFS AND CONGRESSIONAL ARGUMENTS RATHER THAN
FACING THE POSSIBILITY OF VIOLENCE.//
THE INAUGURATION OF A NEW PRESIDENT IS A NOVELTY THAT WILL
BE SOME TIME IN WEARING OFF. GATHERED AROUND THE GARAGE
OF GUSMAN'S MODEST RESIDENCE HERE YESTERDAY, THE LOCAL
PRESS SPENT AN HOUR PHOTOGRAPHING THE CHANGE OF LICENSE
PLATES ON GUZMAN'S NEWLY SHINED LIMOUSINE.//
FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS CENTURY, A FREELY-ELECTED PRESIDENT
RECEIVED THE "PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC" NUMBER-ONE PLATES
FROM AN ELECTED PREDECESSOR. VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, INAUGURATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE208571
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PFKENNEDY
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780335-1138
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780856/aaaabvbu.tel
Line Count: 158
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 74e38662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1717083
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS CLIPPINGS
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, DR, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: SANTO DOMINGO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/74e38662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014